



— State of —
North Dakota
Office of the Governor

John Hoeven
Governor

PROCLAMATION
FAMILY HISTORY MONTH
NOVEMBER 2008

WHEREAS, health care professionals have known for a long time that common diseases such as heart disease, cancer, diabetes, cystic fibrosis, sickle cell anemia and hemophilia can run in families; and

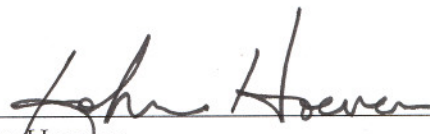
WHEREAS, a recent national survey found that 96 percent of Americans believe that knowing their family history is important, yet the same survey found that only one-third of Americans have ever tried to gather and write down their family's health history; and

WHEREAS, tracing the illnesses suffered by parents, grandparents and other blood relatives can help doctors predict the disorders for which individuals may be at risk and advise them to take the appropriate steps to protect their health, as well as the health of their families; and

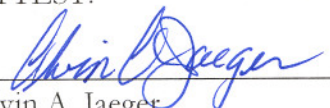
WHEREAS, in 2004, U.S. Surgeon General Richard H. Carmona, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, launched a national public health campaign called the U.S. Surgeon General's Family History Initiative to encourage all American families to learn more about their family health history; and

WHEREAS, North Dakotans are encouraged to discuss and record family health information during this month, especially when families gather for Thanksgiving and other holidays, and to recognize the importance of family health history in achieving longer, healthier lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim November 2008, **FAMILY HISTORY MONTH** in the state of North Dakota.


John Hoeven
Governor

ATTEST:


Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State